## **REMARKS**

The above-reference Office Action has been carefully reviewed and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 23 and 24 are allowed and that Claims 2 and 6 would be allowable if written in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 1 has been amended to insert therein the limitations of Claim 2. Claim 24 is Claim 1 with the limitations of Claim 6 inserted therein. Dependent Claims 25-42 are identical to dependent Claims 2, 6, and 8-16 as filed.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the application, Claims 1, 8-16, and 23-42, are allowable and early action in that regard is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions as to the allowability of the claims or any suggestions with respect thereto, the privilege of a telephone conference with the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Date: January 24, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

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